SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

A new British species of *Neurigona* Rondani (Diptera: Dolichopodidae) from Anglesey.—During the Diptera Recording Scheme's meeting at Bangor in 1987 I took a female *Neurigona* at Newborough Warren NNR, Anglesey, which keyed to *biflexa* Strobl in Parent (1938), and this was later confirmed from a new Palaearctic revision of the genus (Negrobov & Fursov, 1988). I have since compared it with a female from a series of both sexes taken in Portugal by Peter Dyte. The Welsh specimen has lost both third antennal segments, but otherwise agrees with the Portuguese specimen in all respects except that the latter has one or two black bristles among the pale ones at the apex of the front coxae, while the mid-coxal bristles are all black, whereas the Welsh specimen has all pale front coxal bristles and a few pale among the black on the mid-coxae. Peter Dyte tells me that his other Portuguese specimens of both sexes show some variation in this character, but the Welsh specimen is within the range.

In both sexes of *N. biflexa* the head and thorax are dark in ground colour and heavily grey dusted, the abdomen is yellow with black basal bands on tergites 2–4 which are about half the tergite length in males and one-third in females. The antennae and legs are all yellow, except the front tarsi which are black in males only. The wing venation readily distinguishes *biflexa* from other British species, the 4th vein (m1 + 2) is strongly undulating beyond the posterior cross vein (m-cu) and convergent with the 3rd vein (r4 + 5) meeting the costa close to the tip of that vein and well before the wing tip. The distance between the tips of the 2nd and 3rd veins is four times that between the 3rd and 4th veins.

I swept the Newborough female in an area of scrub in the centre of the Warren well away from any trees, and a more promising area for finding further specimens would seem to be the belt of forest between the dunes and the estuary to the north west. The type locality of *biflexa* is in southern Spain and it seems not to have been recorded from that region again until Peter Dyte captured his series in May 1989 from the Algarve in southern Portugal. I am grateful to Peter Dyte for the loan of his specimen and permission to quote his record.—Jonathan Cole, 2 Lenton Close, Brampton, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE18 8TR.

References

Negrobov, O. P. & Fursov, V. N. 1988. Revision of the Palaearctic species of *Neurigona* Rondani (Diptera Dolichopodidae) 11. *Entomologicheskoye Obozreniye* **67(2)**: 405–416.

Parent, O. 1938. Diptères Dolichopodidae. *Faune de France* **35**: 1–720.

***Xylota xanthocnema* Collin (Diptera: Syrphidae) in Kent.**—On 8.vii.90 whilst collecting in Knole Park, Sevenoaks, Kent, my eye was caught by a *Xylota* hovering around the slightly buttress-style roots of a large beech tree. It proved to be *X. xanthocnema*. This species is not recorded in Chandler (1969) and may be new to the county. Stubbs & Falk (1983/1986) record the larva as having been found in the exudate and rot holes of yew trees, but suggest that it probably uses deciduous trees as well. The specimen in Knole Park flew around several knobbly roots and may have been looking for oviposition sites. There were no rot holes or exuding areas on that particular tree, but the surrounding leaf litter was quite thick.—Richard A. Jones, 13 Bellwood Road, Nunhead, London SE15 3DE.

References

Chandler, P. J. 1969. The hoverflies of Kent. *Trans. Kent Field Club* **3**: 139–202.

Stubbs, A. E. & Falk, S. J. 1983 (reprinted 1986). *British hoverflies: an illustrated identification guide*, London, BENHS, p. 226.